

REMARKS

Claims 15-30 are presently pending in the application and stand rejected. Claims 1-14 were previously canceled. Claims 15, 16 and 23 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims as requested is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

In paragraph 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 15-23, 25, 27, 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,754,636 ("Bayless") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,754,775 ("Adamson"). In addition, claims 24, 26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayless in view of Adamson, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,009,338 ("Iwata"). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, but has amended the application to overcome the objections.

Bayless discloses a computer based method for displaying the local time and location of a calling party of a telephone call for the benefit of a user of the system. In the method at least a portion of the ANI or Caller ID data is used to access database information to determine the place of origin and the local time of the calling party. The local time and place is then displayed to the user of the system. A server computer system provides telephone services, database services and access to E-mail, voice mail, video conferencing and facsimile systems.

As noted in item 2 of the Office Action, Bayless does not teach storing of graphic images such as the picture of a caller. Accordingly, because no graphic images are stored in the system of Bayless, a call cannot be established automatically when a graphic image is selected, as recited in amended independent claims 15 and 23. Therefore, claims 15 and 23 contain an element not explicitly found in Bayless.

Furthermore, the element found in claims 15 and 23 is not an obvious extension of the teachings of Bayless. The selecting of an image to initiate a call is essential for a wide variety of users, including small children who can recognize pictures of their parents but cannot read their names, non-English speakers who cannot read the prompt on a "call"

button, and farsighted people who can recognize a particular face but have difficulty reading text at close distances, as is the case with the undersigned. Consequently, Bayless taken alone fails to teach all the elements of amended independent claims 15 and 23.

Adamson discloses a method and system for formulating a connection address that connects a PC conferencing system to another PC conferencing system. In particular, Adamson discusses various aspects identifying the participants in a video conference, as shown in FIGs 7 and 8. Although a still picture is associated with each participant, and said pictures are displayed on a screen with the associated participant names, there is nothing anywhere in Adamson that teaches or suggests selecting an image to automatically establish a call, as recited in amended independent claims 15 and 23. Referring to FIG. 7b in Adamson, one of ordinary skill in the art would clearly not attempt to select one of the images on the screen to initiate a call, when there is a "call" button placed prominently in the center of the screen. Accordingly, the elements of amended independent claims 15 and 23, which are not taught by Bayless, are also not taught by Adamson, and are further not taught by Bayless and Adamson taken in combination.

Because not all the elements of independent claims 15 and 23 are taught or suggested by Bayless and Adamson, taken alone or in combination, independent claims 15 and 23 are not obvious over Bayless in view of Adamson.

Furthermore, dependent claims 16-22, which depend from independent claim 15, and dependent claims 24-30, which depend from independent claim 23, contain all the limitations of 15 and 23, respectively, including those limitations which are not taught or suggested by Bayless and Adamson, taken alone or in combination. Accordingly, dependent claims 16-22 and 24-30 are not obvious over Bayless in view of Adamson.

Iwata discloses a mobile terminal that has an address book, display means, searching means, commanding means, an earphone and a microphone. However, nothing in Iwata teaches or suggests selecting an image to automatically establish a call, as recited in amended independent claims 15 and 23. Accordingly, no combination of Iwata, Bayless, and Adamson can render independent claims 15 or 23 obvious. Likewise, dependent claims 16-22 and 24-30 are not obvious over Bayless in view of Adamson, and further in view of Iwata.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and reasons provided above, it is believed that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. The amendments clarify the patentable invention without adding new subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early allowance of all pending claims.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's attorney of record, Michael B. Lasky at (952) 253-4106.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 25, 2005